

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 956

By Holt

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of Sarah Jean Cunningham of Gleason.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of Mrs. Sarah Jean Cunningham, a true friend and lifelong model citizen of Gleason; and

WHEREAS, "Mrs. Jean" was an exemplary public servant who worked assiduously to improve the quality of life for her fellow citizens in numerous capacities; and

WHEREAS, the daughter of Walter and Ruth Burrows, Sarah Jean Cunningham spent the majority of her career working for HIS; after that company closed, she went to work as an agent for AMA Insurance in Gleason, from which position she eventually retired; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Cunningham was an active and devout member of Sandhill Baptist Church, which she served faithfully as a Sunday school teacher for several years; and

WHEREAS, this remarkable woman lived her life daily as a Christ-like example for others, and God was always first in her life; she gladly mentored others in their own walk with Christ; and

WHEREAS, having a huge passion for children, she donated supplies to the local preschool and adopted children each Christmas to make sure they had the Christmas that every child deserves; and

WHEREAS, a person who always pursued her passions, Mrs. Jean made the most of every opportunity and generously supported causes that were important to her; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Cunningham was deeply devoted to her family, and she always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, this excellent public servant and humble Christian is survived by her children, Angie (Barry) Lassiter and Kevin (Teresa) Cunningham; grandchildren, Brandy (Chris)

Foust and Zach (Elizabeth) Cunningham; sisters, Frances (Joel) Parsley and Faye (Donnie) Snow; and many nieces, nephews, extended family, and beloved friends; and

WHEREAS, in addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Jimmie Lee Cunningham, and sister, Ann Burke; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Cunningham made a difference in her community, inspiring others to live their best lives, and she leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity, compassion, and dedication in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, the members of Sandhill Baptist Church have paid eloquent tribute to Mrs. Cunningham: "The life of Mrs. Jean was a vivid display of someone actively living as the woman described in Proverbs 31. Mrs. Jean loved her family fiercely and was their strong, gentle caretaker, as well as their anchor when life was hard. She had a beautiful gift that kept those around her centered and focused on the things that truly matter in life. To our church family, she lived her life before us as God-fearing and faithful to His word. Mrs. Jean never spoke negatively about anyone and always responded to any situation with kindness. She demonstrated love in every word and action, and she refused any praise or recognition for her works. Love and humility were her greatest gifts, and knowing her was a blessing to be treasured for the rest of our lives"; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED TENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of Sarah Jean Cunningham, reflecting fondly upon her impeccable character and her stalwart commitment to living a Christian life with courage and conviction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mrs. Cunningham.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.